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How to submit a book for *State of the Arts*

To submit a book by a Montana author for inclusion in *State of the Arts*' "About Books" section:

Please send a copy of the book to *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824; or submit the following information electronically to writesus@livelytimes.com or mac@mt.gov:

- Title, author, publisher, publisher's address and month/year published;
- Price and whether it's hard- or softcover;
- A brief description of the book (no more than 200 words), and a short bio of the author;
- A cover image: minimum 200 dpi in pdf, jpg or tiff file;
- If other publications or authors have reviewed the book, send a brief sampling of those remarks.

If you would like us to return the book, include a note with it saying so. (We will pay for shipping.)

E-books: We'll also mention books that are only electronically published: send title, author, a cover image, website for downloads, and a brief paragraph about the book.

Books submitted to *State of the Arts* appear in this publication at the Montana Arts Council's discretion and as space permits, and will not necessarily be reprinted in *Lively Times*.

ABOUT BOOKS

Four Swans

By Greg Pape
Published 2013 by Lynx House Press,
Spokane, WA
\$15.95

"In *Four Swans* the space between the human heart and the natural world disappears, and the door to the heart is open wider than ever to both past and present," writes author Sena Jeter Naslund of Greg Pape's latest collection.

The poet lovingly traces Montana's landscape, from Great Falls, to Lima, to the Bitterroot; counts birds ("one long-eared owl on a low branch stares, holds me/ a moment like a vole in its big gold eyes"); imagines the lives of long-dead Chinese poets ("I find in Su Tung-p'o a friend across time"); and writes elegies for old friends Jim Crumley and Jim Welch, an irascible rooster named Big Red, and the wild Yangtze River ("Now the engineers of disaster drown the river/ that inspired ten thousand poems").

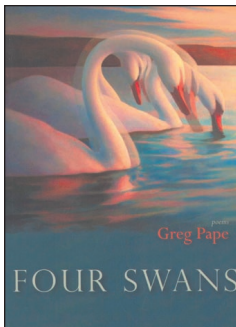
Pape is so sure-footed and tender, whether writing about his mother, Irene, who "loved bright colors, the sheen/ of velvet on butterflies' wings ..." or his two sons, "wild boys growling like dogs."

Clearing a hole in the ice becomes, as well, the patient work of crafting a poem: "Liu Tsung-yuan, Tu Fu, and Hugo/ look over my shoulder into the little lake/ of clear water I opened with the auger, water/ that wants to ice-over, wants to freeze-up/ more solidly than ever. Ice in an old hole/ will dull or break the blades of the auger./ You have to cut a new hole./ You have to sit in the snow and wait."

Pape, who lives in the Bitterroot Valley and teaches creative writing at The University of Montana, was Montana Poet Laureate from 2007-'09. He's the author of nine books, and has received two National Endowment for the Arts Individual Fellowships, the Pushcart Prize and the Richard Hugo Memorial Poetry Award.

His new work, writes Christopher Buckley, "connects us to the luminous actual world in which we live and die."

— Kristi Niemeyer



The Snowpeaks

By O. Alan Weltzien
Published 2013 by FootHills Publishing,
Kanona, NY
\$16 softcover

O. Alan Weltzien, a longtime English professor at The University of Montana Western in Dillon, ascends mountains, contemplates aging, travels among the cultures of France, Japan and Mexico, and lets the music of rivers, language and song inform the poems in his second collection, *The Snowpeaks*.

"For many years/ I listen to river speech ... its soft l's and s's ... the music of lapping ... Occasionally a rock/ rumbles or the cliffs/ crack the river's/ silence, echo northeast/ then south ... all the way/ past New Orleans."

Weltzien, who calls himself "a born-again poet," is a mountain scrambler who counts among his "snowpeaks" the volcanic summits of Fuji, Rainier and Kilimanjaro, as well as mountains closer to home – Monument Peak, Maverick Mountain and Benson Peak, where "out of the wind,/ I pan years before miles/ gaze upon seasons off/ younger self circumscribed/ within Dillon's leafy grid/ then ... slide and shoot down/ snowbanks, and laugh/ at the pines."

He writes unflinchingly about loss – of friends and family, of hairline and mobility, and of his children as each "flies into his own adult story." His poems fearlessly plumb the "tear tracks" they leave behind.

Montana poet, writer and song-maker Greg Keeler praises Weltzien's "elegant, unaffected diction ... Whether broad and sweeping, up close and personal or gently sardonic, the focus is always sharp and the voice is unassuming."

Weltzien has edited, co-edited or authored half a dozen books; *To Kilimanjaro and Back* was his first book of poetry.

— Kristi Niemeyer



The Best of Glacier National Park

By Alan Leftridge
Published 2013 by Farcountry Press,
Helena, MT
\$19.95 softcover

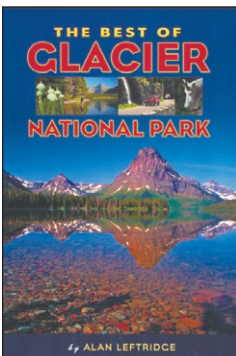
Visitors to Glacier Park who find themselves wondering what to do or what to see need look no further than this handy guide that details the "best of" what this iconic park has to offer. Whatever your pleasure – hiking, biking, camping, photographing wildlife, paddling a kayak, or enjoying a leisurely picnic – you'll find it neatly condensed here.

Leftridge has efficiently organized a wealth of information to help visitors get the most out of their trip. Hikers will find maps and details about trail logistics to help plan outings. Directions to lakes and waterfalls are included, with information about where good fishing can be found.

Wildlife facts include tantalizing tidbits like this one: grizzly bears can run up to 40 mph while black bears have only been clocked at 33 mph. From birds, to bugs, to wildflowers, the author includes information on all forms of flora and fauna. He even offers advice on places to go and things to do when bad weather sends you indoors.

Telephone numbers and websites are included in the "resources" section to assist in making reservations or obtaining information on specific topics.

Leftridge is highly qualified to pen this guide, having worked in several national parks as a seasonal naturalist, including, of course, Glacier Park. He holds a doctorate in science education and cultural geography, and has



previously authored *Glacier Day Hikes*, *Seeley-Swan Day Hikes*, *Going to Glacier* (a children's book), and *Interpretive Writing*. He resides in Montana's Swan Valley.

— Judy Shafter

The Trials of Christopher Mann

By Casey Charles
Published 2013 by Regal Crest Enterprises, LLC,
Belton, TX
\$20.95 softcover

Missoula writer Casey Charles sets his debut novel in San Francisco, 1978. The assassination of Mayor George Moscone and gay rights activist Harvey Milk, and the subsequent trial of their murderer, are headline news.

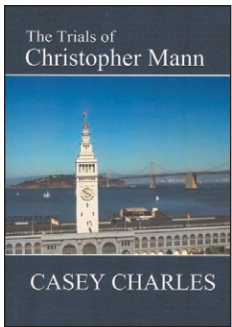
This turbulent history provides the backdrop for the story, but very much in the foreground is Chris Mann, a first-year law student raised in a conservative household. Reflecting the title, Chris's "trials" come not from any courtroom, but rather from his relationships with his friends – young ambitious people finding their way in their professional and personal pursuits.

Chris has a girlfriend, more out of convenience (she lives upstairs) than in a deliberate search for a mate, but increasingly finds his attentions and emotions drifting in another direction. Although Mann has questioned his attraction to men in the past, his upbringing has enforced his belief that he's straight. After striking up a friendship with one of his classmates, his life begins to change dramatically.

Charles gives all the characters in his novel important roles, revealing complicated individuals who are believable and likeable – some with surprising connections and poignant histories that surface as wounds are opened and secrets come out. In the end, readers are apt to sense that the characters would all be better off if truth was no longer on trial – a sentiment that both Milk and Moscone would probably applaud.

Casey Charles practiced law in his hometown of San Francisco for several years before moving to Missoula to teach English, queer studies, Shakespeare, law, and literature at The University of Montana. He previously authored *The Sharon Kowalski Case: Lesbian and Gay Rights on Trial* and two chapbooks of poetry, *Controlled Burn* and *Blood Work*.

— Judy Shafter



The Smiling Photo

Images of War
By Carolyn Snively
Published 2013 by Stoneydale
Press, Stevensville, MT
\$12.95 softcover; \$19.95 hardcover

Missoula poet Carolyn Snively offers a stirring anti-war message in this collection of Haiku.

When Operation Iraqi Freedom inspired the author to paint with poetry the effects of war on soldiers, their families, enemy fighters, civilians and the fabric of society itself, she could not have conceived that her book would be published only a short time after the war's 10th anniversary.

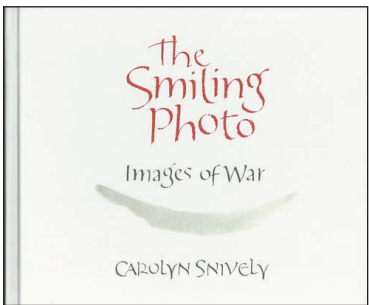
The book features stunning illustrations by noted calligrapher Timothy Botts, whom the author met at a 2004 workshop for writers and artists in Santa Fe, NM. Botts was excited at the prospect of creating art that would complement Snively's poetry.

As the author brought the two media together, she refined her work to give voice to war's victims. After having opposed the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars, Snively says she was unprepared for yet another war to become her muse. However, in the end, she was driven by war's continuous overwhelming presence to write the poems in this collection.

Haiku is distinguished by its succinct telling of a story or creation of an image in 17 syllables. In this book, however, Snively turns classical Haiku on its head. The usual celebration of natural beauty and harmony becomes a eulogy of violence, discord and redemption, all the time preserving the poetic tone and form perfectly.

The result is, as Montana Poet Laureate Sheryl Nothe said, "... a book that should be read by everyone and memorized."

For more information, visit stoneydale@stoneydale.com.



Nanny on the Run

By Karen Buley
Published 2013 by CreateSpace Independent
Publishing Platform, North Charleston, SC
\$9.99 softcover

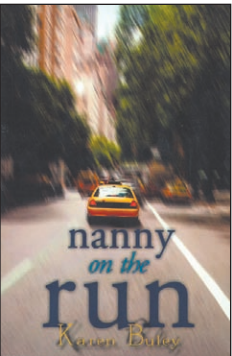
Missoula author Karen Buley employed personal experience to craft this novel for the young adult set. In 1977, she was a "nanny on the run."

Bridget, her central character, is from Butte. Wanting to escape a relationship with her adolescent boyfriend, she accepts a position as a nanny in New York City, working for a well-to-do family with two young children. Almost immediately, she discovers that things that sounded so good over the phone and looked good on paper are not quite the reality she encounters in her new position. In addition to the culture shock of New York City, Bridget cannot adjust to being treated like a servant instead of a trusted employee.

Eventually she makes friends and finds peers who help her exit what has become an intolerable situation. Through it all, she knows that she can call home and find support from her family, especially her dad, who encourages her to follow her instincts.

Buley's previous book, *Nurses on the Run: Why They Come, Why They Stay*, was chosen a Best Books 2010 Awards finalist by *USA Book News*. Her essays have appeared in *Family Circle* and *American Nurse Today*. This is her first novel.

— Judy Shafter



ABOUT BOOKS

In the Shadow of the Sabertooth

A Renegade Naturalist Considers Global Warming, the First Americans and the Terrible Beasts of the Pleistocene

By Doug Peacock

Published 2013 by CounterPunch, Petrolia, CA, and AK Press, Oakland, CA

\$15 softcover

As a kid, wandering the woods near his home in northern Michigan, Doug Peacock discovered the ancient grave of a stillborn child, marked with red ochre and buried with arrowheads. The discovery “spoke of an older, more compelling world I wanted somehow to become a part of.”

In the Shadow of the Sabertooth takes readers into that world as the Livingston writer and naturalist probes his lifelong fascination with prehistory. That interest is piqued further when he finds out about another gravesite, this time near his Montana home and containing “the oldest skeleton ever found in the Americas” – the body of a one-and-a-half-year-old child.

The skeleton and the large cache of tools date back to the Clovis culture, a time 13,000 to 15,000 years ago when megafauna rumbled across North America, stalked by bold hunters with their distinctive stone-tipped spears.

Peacock discusses the discovery, called the Anzick site, offering his interpretation of what it means about the peopling of the Americas, and how they developed the skills and tools necessary to survive “the terrifying array of Pleistocene predators.”

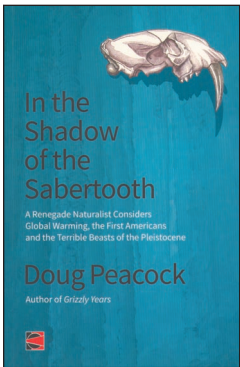
But far from focusing solely on the archaeological conundrums raised by the Livingston site (and there are many), Peacock crafts a bridge between the fate of our ancestors, hunting mammoths in a wild, unpredictable landscape, and ourselves.

Clovis people walked the Earth at a time, “like today of convulsive climate change,” an age of rising temperatures, melting glaciers and massive extinctions. “Are there lessons in the story of early Americans adapting to a changing climate in an uninhabited human landscape, prowled by large cats and gigantic bears?” He believes there are.

Peacock employs “a dusty degree in geology,” graduate study in anthropology, a background in archeology and the natural sciences, and a lifetime of adventure in the wilderness to imagine the journey of our predecessors. Even though his tale ends with the mass extinctions of giant predators and the sudden disappearance of Clovis people, Peacock suggests that humans might learn enough from the ancient mammoth hunters to “get it right a second time.” Let’s hope so.

Peacock is also the author *In the Presence of Grizzlies* (with Andrea Peacock), *Walking It Off, Baja!* and *Grizzly Years*.

– Kristi Niemeyer



Glacier Park Lodge,

Celebrating 100 Years

Text by Christine Barnes and photography by Fred Pflughoff, David Morris and Douglass Dye

Published 2013 by Farcountry Press, Helena, MT

\$14.95 hardcover

Christine Barne’s petite gem of a book offers an insider’s look at the history of one of Glacier Park’s landmark structures, situated on the eastern edge of the park. Built in 1913 and financed primarily by the Great Northern Railway, Glacier Park Lodge’s architecture reflected the “Americanized-Swiss plan,” using massive logs shipped from the Pacific Northwest on specially built railroad cars.

A spacious lobby, with rows of columns and balconies, reminiscent of Swiss chalets, gave the hotel an international feel. Japanese lanterns hung from the ceiling in the lobby and hotel workers sported costumes ranging from kimonos to Bavarian-style dress.

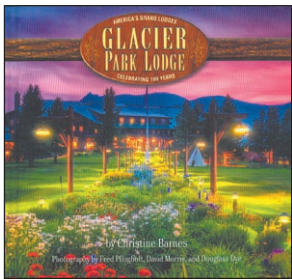
Louis Hill, president of the railway at the time, envisioned a grand hotel with a rustic look to it, but offering luxurious amenities – eventually those included a swimming pool and golf course.

A blend of historic and contemporary photographs gives a flavor of the lodge, then and now. Barnes also mentions other chalets built to house park guests, although only a few of these structures remain today.

To commemorate the lodge’s 100th birthday, current executive chef Joe Santangini shares recipes from the Great Northern Dining Room. Check out the mouthwatering Montana Sundae! To further your knowledge of Glacier, a bibliography, useful websites, and travel information are included in the book.

Barnes, who lives in Bend, OR, is the award-winning author of numerous books on historic lodges in U.S. and Canadian national parks, and was a senior consultant and historian for the companion PBS series, “*Great Lodges of the National Parks*” and “*Great Lodges of the Canadian Rockies*.”

– Judy Shafter



Earth Recitals Essays on Image and Vision

By Melissa Kwasny

Published February 2013 by Lynx House Press, Spokane, WA

\$19.95 softcover

Montana poet Melissa Kwasny’s collection of essays engages with the image in the history of poetry, as well as with contemporary poets, philosophers, archaeologists, artists, and cultural critics. It outlines the major tenets of Imagism and sketches the transformations the image underwent in modernism and surrealism.

The book’s central preoccupation is with questions of interiority and exteriority – the image’s appearance as being and its subsequent reappearance in the mind – and it introduces the writings of the renowned Sufi scholar Henry Corbin.



Susan Griffin, author of *Women and Nature* and *A Chorus of Stones*, describes it this way: “In the pages of this extraordinary collection of essays you will encounter a marvelously complex weave of ideas, yet, miracle of miracles, expressed without any jargon or fashionably obfuscating language. Kwasny walks on a winding path through literary history, with an eye to relevant and surrounding events, social and political histories and issues, always with a keen interest in the nature not only of poetry and prose but of human emotion, intelligence and perception.

“With a compelling mix of distance and empathy, for instance, she explores the fate of birds in warfare, juxtaposing this with the great Persian epic poem, ‘The Conference of the Birds,’ the myth of Icarus, and lines by the late poet, George Oppen, that express wonder at ‘The wild deer bedding down/That they are there!’

“Similarly this collection does what all the greatest critical works do, leads us to question not only what literature is and who we are but to wonder at existence.”

Kwasny is the author of four books of poetry, most recently *The Nine Senses*. She is also the editor of *Toward the Open Field: Poets on the Art of*

The Complete Montana Gothic

Edited by Peter Rutledge Koch

Published 2013 by Hormone Derange Editions and Peter Koch Printers, Berkeley, CA

\$35 softcover

The Complete Montana Gothic collects in a single volume all six issues of *Montana Gothic: An Independent Journal of Poetry, Literature, and Graphics*, published from 1974 to 1977 by Peter Rutledge Koch at his Black Stone Press in Missoula.

Original copies of the journal were scanned and are reproduced in facsimile. Additionally, this edition includes seven illustrations, 13 photographs and a complete list of contributors. It also features seven new, previously unpublished articles and essays, written expressly for this occasion by Adam Cornford, Edwin Dobb, Peter Koch, Milo Miles, Rick Newby, Aaron Parrett, and David E. Thomas.

Newby writes, “With the six issues of *Montana Gothic*, Koch, like forbears such as Leslie Fiedler, James Welch and Mary MacLane, opened the field, made room for those of us who take the notion of Montana literature seriously, but who want it always to be something more, something richer and deeply unexpected, a tradition built from hatred and love, rich in ambivalences, innovations, and unprecedented ‘extrusions of the marvelous.’”

Forty years ago, Koch and his “wild bunch” of cowboy surrealists stirred up a bit of excitement and trouble in the dense forests and alpine peaks of the Big Sky Country. Gang members included Montana originals, “expats” in Kathmandu and Tangier, and “seekers of the marvelous” from San Francisco to New York, Paris, London, Mexico City, and beyond.

The world may have changed but these wildly poetic works have retained their freshness in spite of, or perhaps because of, the great grinding-down process of too much information in an age of mechanical reproduction.

“*Montana Gothic* poets may seem like strapping cowboys chugging absinthe and shooting out streetlights, but they are damned fine shots,” wrote William S. Burroughs.



Living in Harmony Color Book

Art director: Corwin Clairmont

Published 2013 by Salish Kootenai College Press, Pablo, MT

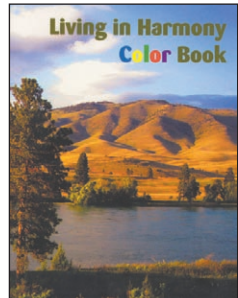
\$4.95 softcover

This 16-page coloring book offers a unique introduction to the land and culture of the Flathead Indian Reservation in western Montana. Originally published in 1991 by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, the new edition imparts the value living in harmony with the natural world.

With captions in English, Salish and Kootenai, the book depicts the environment and cultural activities – including fishing, dancing and harvesting plants for food and medicine – of the Flathead Indian Reservation, home of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes.

Dwight Billedeaux, Patrick Chief Stick Jr., Sam Sandoval, and Corwin Clairmont created the drawings of the landscape, wildlife and tribal people. The book reflects a reverence for the environment and the wisdom of tribal elders: “Our grandfathers and grandmothers show us how to take care of the soil and water and plants and animals that Mother Earth provides, so all who live on our reservation have a home and a clean environment in harmony with Mother Earth.”

Copies of the book are available from Salish Kootenai College Press, P.O. Box 70, Pablo, MT 59855 (add \$2.50 for shipping).



Have You Ever Seen a Bear with a Purple Smile?

By Laura Budds, illustrated by Kadie Zimmerman

Published 2013 by As Big As the Sky Publishing, Missoula, and distributed by Farcountry Press, Helena, MT

\$16.95 hardcover

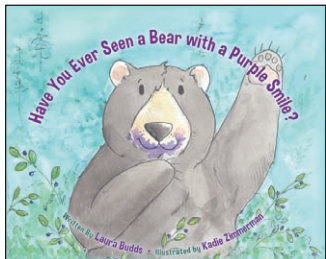
A mother of two, Laura Budds spent a lot of time reading children’s books.

Finally, she put pen to paper and wrote one – a rhyming tale for children about two young bunnies wondering about bears and purple smiles.

Bears get purple smiles from eating sweet, juicy huckleberries that grow in secret patches in the woods. The young bunnies in her book are fearless as they pull and tug on their mother’s ears, ready to start the hunt for a bear with a purple smile.

Kadie Zimmerman supplied the bright, watercolor illustrations for this charming story. The illustrator was born and raised in Kalispell, and earned a degree in art from The University of Montana.

Budds moved to Missoula from California in 1997 and enjoys spending time with her family in the outdoors. She admits, however, that her family’s huckleberries most often come from the local Missoula farmers’ market.



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Send us book ideas

Two Helena publishing companies welcome book ideas.

Farcountry Press invites writers, photographers and illustrators to submit their book ideas for consideration.

Farcountry publishes award-winning books on regional popular history, natural history and national parks for a general audience and for children.

The company also publishes color photography books on regions, states, cities and national parks, but generally does not publish poetry or fiction.

Please send book proposals to: Acquisitions, PO Box 5630, Helena, MT 59604. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or your materials will not be returned, and do not send original art or photographs. For more information, visit www.farcountrypress.com.

Riverbend Publishing also welcomes book proposals about Montana and the West. The company publishes award-winning books on regional history, natural history, photography and Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, plus cookbooks and fiction.

Send proposals to Editor, Riverbend Publishing, PO Box 5833, Helena, MT 59604. Visit www.riverbendpublishing.com for more information about the company.